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U.S. Aggressive Machinations in Asia Doomed to Failure

* U.S. imperialism's aggressive machinations in the Far East and Asia are getting more intensified day after day. Rallying its aggressive ground, naval and air forces in the Asian areas, U.S. imperialism is conducting armed intervention in Laos and South Vietnam, strengthening military occupation of South Korea and Taiwan and engineering military provocations in these areas. While promoting the militarization of Japan, the U.S. imperialists are trying to turn the Japanese militarists into a shock troop to invade Asia and are plotting to form a new military alliance by getting together all the puppets in Asia, with Japanese reactionary forces as its core.

* With a view to covering up their aggressive schemes and brewing tensions in Asia, the U.S. imperialists resort to the old tricks to slander socialist countries in these areas and to alarm other peoples with the so-called "threat of communism." It is not fortuitious that U.S. imperialism is bent on slandering, under the cloak of "anti-communism," the People's Republic of China and other socialist countries in Asia. Today, the might of the People's Republic of China, which is a powerful anti-imperialist peace force in Asia, exerts a great influence upon the development of the Asian situation, infinitely inspiring the peoples in these areas in their anti-imperialist national liberation struggle. This is why the imperialists are carrying on the so-called "anti-China" campaign to injure the prestige of the People's Republic of China, check its growing influence and to find pretexts for aggression and war in Asia.

* Since its inauguration, the present U.S. Administration has been consistently acting under the mask of "peace." Shuffling along with honeyed words about "disarmament," the Kennedy Administration in actuality compiled the largest military budget in peacetime American history, desperately reinforcing its ground, naval and air forces. In order to strengthen the foundation for its aggressive policy, the Kennedy Administration is suppressing the struggle of the American working class and other working masses for peace, democracy and their living rights, persecuting communists and other progressive people and prohibiting the activities of the Communist Party of the United States.

* Meanwhile, the U.S. imperialists are strengthening the NATO and other military blocs and expanding military bases in various parts of the world, by inventing the so-called "Berlin crisis" and other provocative machinations. They say they are "ready for a decisive war," calling on the American people and their Western allies to be ready for "war."

* U.S. imperialism is the most atrocious oppressor of the peoples' struggles for national freedom, independence and social progress. Pretending to be the friend and "savior" of Asian, African and Latin American peoples, U.S. imperialism is frantically strengthening its domination over these peoples. Its armed intervention perpetrated last April against Cuba eloquently shows that the U.S. President's words about "support" for "freedom" and "independence" are but an empty lie.

* U.S. imperialism sows seeds of discord among the peoples and stops at nothing to protect old colonialist powers, intending to fish in troubled waters. The attempt to drag the Indian reactionary groups into the "anti-China" campaign by meddling in the China-India frontier dispute, dirty tricks to estrange Cambodia from its neighboring countries under U.S. domination, shameless acts of interference to intimidate the Indonesian people and obstruct their struggle to liberate West Irian—all this fully lays bare the real nature of U.S. imperialism as the enemy of all Asian peoples.

* However, all Asian peoples who know well the aggressive nature of U.S. imperialism through their bitter experience in their long struggle against imperialism and colonialism, have never entertained any illusions about U.S. imperialists' and their puppets' honeyed words and deceptive measures. Asian peoples wage and will wage stubborn struggles against U.S. imperialism's aggressive maneuvers, until the last vestiges of colonialism are rooted out in this part of the world. No power on earth is strong enough to impede the victorious march of Asian peoples. Today, the world Socialist camp headed by the Soviet Union and the world forces of peace possess all material and spiritual means to crush any provocative attacks by the imperialists headed by U.S. imperialism and to safeguard peace. U.S. imperialism's aggressive schemes and provocations against Asian peoples are doomed to complete failure.

Hard Delivery of Ten Years
This time, she will surely have a child!
—Che Jun—

DPRK Fishery Ass'n Proposes to Give Relief Goods to S. Korean Tidal Wave Sufferers

Whang Joong Up, President of the Central Committee of the DPRK Fishery Association, on Jan. 12, sent to Choi Du Sun, President of the "ROK" Red Cross a cable proposing to deliver relief goods to the South Korean fishermen who had suffered serious damage by the tidal wave that recently hit the eastern coastal areas, according to a KCNA report of Jan.12.

The cable follows in part;

We express our heartfelt sympathy for South Korean fishermen who suffered unprecedentedly severe damage owing to the tidal wave which hit recently the eastern coastal area of South Korea.

Accoding to reports from South Korea, a number of fishermen were killed in Sokcho, Myunggju, Kosung, Uljin and other eastern coastal areas.

The sufferers, who lost their fishing implements, houses and household goods, are now lingering on the verge of death.

They are waiting for the earliest relief.

The Central Committee of the DPRK Fishery Association informs you that it, regarding it as our bounden fraternal duty to give relief to them, decided to send them 1,000 "suk" of polished rice, 10,000 metres of textiles and 5,000 pairs of footwear, and that it is ready to deliver these relief goods to the delegates of your society at Panmunjom or any other place.

Korean-Chinese Side Attacks Violation By U.S. of Armistice Agreement

PANMUNJOM, Jan. 16 (TASS)—A regular meeting of the Military Armistice Commission for Korea was held today on the motion of the Korean-Chinese side. The Secretary of the Korean-Chinese side reported at the meeting about new cases of violation by the American side of the Armistice Agreement in Korea.

From Jan. 6 to 11, several landing craft and warships of the American side violated the coastal waters of the DPRK.

Ajoi Ghosh Dies of Cardiac Disease;

KWP Central Committee Sends Telegram of Condolences to Communist Party of India

PYONGYANG, Jan. 16 (KCNA)—The KWP Central Committee on Jan. 15 sent a telegram of condolences to the National Council of the Communist Party of India, on the occasion of the death of Ajoy Kumar Ghosh, General Secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India. The telegram follows:

The Central Committee of the Korean Workers' Party, hearing the news of the death of Comrade Ajoy Kumar Ghosh, General Secretary of the National Council of the Communist Party of India, expresses heartfelt condolences to the National Council of the Communist Party of India and to the bereaved family.

A leader of the Indian working class, Comrade Ajoy Ghosh devoted all his life to the struggle for India's national independence and the cause of the working class. His death is a great loss to the Communist Party of India as well as to the international communist movement.

We are convinced that your Party will gain fresh successes in the struggle to further strengthen, under the banner of Marxism-Leninism, the unity and cohesion of the party ranks, consolidate the national independence of the country and to achieve social progress.

Editorial

We Again Denounce "South Korea-Japan Talks" for Aggressive Designs

In defiance of widespread and strong opposition by both the Korean and the Japanese people, the South Korean "military regime" and the Japanese Government on Jan. 16 resumed the so-called "normalization talks."

At the resumed meeting, South Korean chief negotiator Pai Ui Hwan said that "the talks has reached the stage of political settlement." At the same time he called on Japanese Foreign Minister Zentaro Kosaka at his office to ask his government to dispatch a big-name political figure to Seoul to hold a political-level conference there.

Chiming in with Pai's assertion, Japan's top negotiator for the "talks" Michisuke Sugi also said to the effect that "the talks has entered the final stage."

Thus, the South Korean puppet regime and the Ikeda Administration put on a last spurt to bring the "talks" to a successful agreement.

Pointing out that "the South Korea-Japan talks is the No. 1 problem to be solved by the Ikeda Government in 1962," most Japanese newspapers and other publications unanimously warn that "an awkward handling of this problem by the government would divide Japan's public opinion and cause a popular struggle as big as the one against "anti-'Security Pact' in 1960."

Therefore, it is not accidental that opinion is divided on the early settlement of the talks even within the ruling Liberal Democratic Party.

Meanwhile, difficult situation is developing for the South Korean "military regime." Broad sections of the South Korean people are strongly opposed to the "talks," keeping a watchful eye on the reinvasion of South Korea by Japanese militarism.

Both the Korean and the Japanese people are well aware that the "talks" is not only contrary to the interests of both peoples, but seriously threatens the peace of the Far East and Asia.

As is well known, the "talks" is aimed, first, at maintaining and strengthening the tottering U.S. colonial rule over South Korea by propping up, with "aid" from Japanese monopoly capital, the shaky South Korean military fascist regime, in order to obstruct peaceful unification of Korea; second, at forming a NEATO military alliance with the participation of Japan, Taiwan and South Korea.

Further, both peoples know well that the "talks" is engineered behind the the scene by U.S. imperialism. In this connection, it is interesting that a high-rank U.S. official said at the beginning of this year that "the biggest problem in Asia in the new year is the South Korea-Japan talks." It must not be overlooked that the recent tense situation in South Vietnam and Laos is not unrelated to the "talks."

We have time and again clarified our stand against the "talks." We again declare that we will never accept any agreement that may be reached at the "talks" and will regard them as null and void.

We demand the immediate discontinuation of "talks" and strongly denounce the vicious attempts of Japanese militarism to invade South Korea.

Recent developments show that the attempts of the U.S. imperialists, Japanese reactionary groups and the South Korean puppet regime to bring the "talks" to early settlement will inevitably be frustrated by the just and stubborn struggle of the Korean and Japanese people, supported by world public opinion.

University Student-Workers —New Type Workers—

Working people in North Korea are completely different from the laborers who, before the fatherland was liberated from the Japanese imperialists' rule, led a hopeless life, clad in rags. They are now masters of the country who are happily working for their bright future. Not only that, they are also artists, technicians and students.

Now in North Korea, there are workers who are called "university student-workers." They are studying hard in order to become excellent technicians in 35 universities. Let's have a look at their student life at one of these universities–Ed.

At Songrim Technical university, located in the oldest metallurgical centre in Korea, some 1,500 ironworkers of the Whanghai Iron Works are receiving higher education while working.

Around six p. m., workers who finished their daily work gather here to study for four hours. It is the time for the second group to receive lessons. The first group comes to school around one p. m. The student-workers are divided into several groups, according to their work shift.

The ironworkers major in metal, mechanical, architectural, electric, fuel engineering, organic chemistry and industrial economy. Each professor teaches a group of 25 students. First-class technical experts and scientists of the factory also give lectures.

Workers receiving lessons in a university: Every worker in North Korea can study according to his wish and ability.

In addition to the normal course, a special curriculum is provided for those who did not receive normal education before the Liberation, and there is a preparatory course for those who were unable to finish secondary education, so that all the workers can receive systematically higher education.

Among the students is seen the wrinkled face of Kim Tai Guk. The 48-yer-old worker is the chief of the construction department. He got excellent marks in the recent examination for promotion. Before the Liberation, he could not go to school satisfactorily as he was a son of a poor tenant peasant.

Also included among the studying ironworkers are not a few repatriates from Japan. Pak Chang Sun came back home from Okayama in Japan aboard the fourth repatriation ship last February and is now working at the repair shop of the factory. He is now a sophomore in the metallurgical department. In Japan, poverty compelled him to leave school halfway.

Kim Gyung Jong(right) is a professor of Hamheung Chemical and Technical College; he was once a worker.

The students are supplied with all necessary materials and school things by the government. After school, they can study in the library of the university.

The university student-workers are not only getting good marks in school, but are introducing various innovations in their work, utilizing advanced theories they learned. During the past year alone, some 100 original ideas and industrial rationalization plans by the working students were adopted at their factory.

Big Electric Power-supplying Center Under Construction

A big electric power-supplying center is now under construction at Seudusu in the northern area of North Korea, according to a KCNA report of Jan. 11.

The electric power-supplying centre, when completed, will produce annually 450,000 kva of electric power.

The construction of the Seudusu Hydro-Power Centre assumes considerable importance in carrying out the decision of the KWP Fourth Congress to produce, during the Seven-Year Plan period, 2 million kw of electric power more than in 1960.

The construction of the centre is a part of a great nature-remaking project to dam the water of the Seudusu, now flowing into the Tuman River, and to turn it toward the eastern coast, by constrcuing 15 large and small dams and a 85 kilometre-long waterway.

The first stage construction will be completed toward the end of 1966, when the Ungbong Dam, Stations No.2 and No.3 are constructed. Toward the end of 1967, Stations No.1 and No.4 will be completed.

Brilliant Prospect of Seven-Year Plan (1961-1967)

—Fishing Industry—

"As our country is surrounded by the sea on three sides, the exploitation of marine resources is of great importance in improving the people's living. Great efforts will be made and an increased amount of funds earmarked, as hitherto, to increase fish catch markedly and to raise marine products to 1,000,000-1,200,000 tons in the last year of the Seven-Year Plan." .....*Premier Kim Il Sung.*

Per capita output of marine products in North Korea will grow to over 100 kilograms in 1967, more than that in countries where the fishing industry is advanced.

In seven years' time, the total haul is estimated to reach 1.2 million tons, i. e. three times that in 1956, the year when the Three-Year Plan was completed.

The Korean Workers' Party, which is planning to improve markedly the people's living by increasing the output of marine products, decided at its Fourth Congress that it would redouble its efforts to develop further the fishing industry and toensure increased output of marine products.

During the plan period, materials for developing the fishing industry will be provided and the technical basis further consolidated.

The shipbuilding industry, which was created there after the Korean War, is to launch, during the plan period, 400-1,000 ton trawl-boats, 2,500-10,000 ton refrigerator boats and mother-ships, and other big and medium-size ships. Thus, the number of motor-driven fishing boats will grow 8.8 times that in 1960 and their total displacement tonnage over 6.6 times. Shoal-detecting ships and planes equipped with up-to-date installations will be increased in number. As a result, fish haul in the deep seas will account for 35 per cent of the total catch from the sea.

During the Seven-Year Plan period, whale fishing will be further developed and the catch of whales drastically increased.

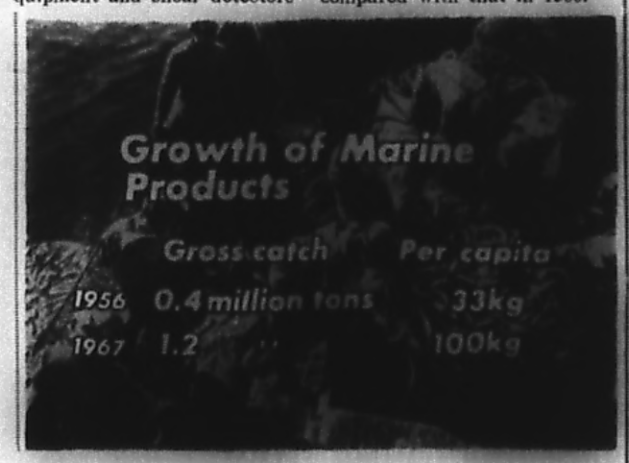
Coastal fishing will be also continuously developed. Within one or two years, the total tonnage of small motor-driven fishing boats will grow six times, all with wireless equipment and shoal detectors

Fishing boats will be supplied with modern fishing-tackle. Fishing implements-producing factories in Pyongyang and Chongjin will be expanded further, and a big fish implements-producing combine will be constructed each in Shinpo City and in the western coastal area. Thus, in 1967 the production of fishing nets will rise 3.2 times and that of ropes 2 times. Over-all mechanization will be also introduced in fishing operations.

Fish farming enterprises will be set up near lakes and swamps, rivers and the eastern and western coastal areas.

The catch of "miuk" seaweed, oysters, clams and other marine products, which are rich in the shallow waters of Korea, will grow 40 times and the haul of fresh-water fish ten times.

Big cold storages and fish-processing combines will be newly built in fishing ports in the eastern and western coastal areas, where big marine products-processing centres will be created. As a result, fish-refrigeration capacity will rise more than seven times, compared with that in 1960.



Friendship, Cooperation, Solidarity

Premier Kim Il Sung Sends Cable of Sympathy to President Sukarno

*PYONGYANG, Jan. 12(KCNA)–Premier Kim Il Sung today sent to Indonesian President Sukarno a cable expressing his joy at the news that the Indonesian President escaped an assassin's bomb at Makassar.

In the cable, the Premier said the attempted assasination showed once again that the imperialists headed by the U.S. stop at nothing to maintain their tottering colonial rule.

He also expressed his conviction that the Indonesian people will surely win victory in their struggle to shatter the vicious aggressive plots of the Dutch colonialists backed by the U.S. imperialists, to consolidate their national independence and win qack West Irian.

The Korean people, he added, fully support, as they did in the past, the just struggle of the Indonesian people.

Korean Afro-Asian Committee Sends Cable to Congolese People

*PYONGYANG, Jan. 17(KCNA)–The Korean Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee recently sent to its Congolese counterpart a cable of condolence addressed to the Congolese people, on the occasion of the first anniversary of Patrice Lumumba's death.

In the cable, the committee expressed its sorrow over the murder of Lumumba in a plot hatched by U.S. imperialism and its puppets, and its firm solidarity with the Congolese people struggling courageously against colonialism and for freedom and national independence.

The committee also expressed its conviction that the Congolese people, supported by the world's people, would surely block invasion and intervention by the colonialists, headed by U.S. imperialism, and win victory in their struggle for safeguarding national independence.

Goodwill Meeting Held for DPRK Trade Delegation Now in Ceylon

*COLOMBO,Jan. 17 (New China News Agency)–A goodwill meeting was held in Colombo on Jan. 13 to welcome the visiting trade and goodwill delegation of the DPRK Government headed by Kim Chang Uk, Deputy-Minister of Commerce. Attending the meeting were the chairman of Ceylon-Korea Friendship Association, and diplomatic representatives of socialist countries in Ceylon.

Fraudulent Nature of S. Korean Junta's Five-Year Economic Plan

Pak Jung Hi's military regime ruling the present South Korea announced on Jan. 13 what it calls the Five-Year Economic Plan. It claims that, if realized, the plan can improve remarkably the present dire economic situation of the country. The announcement of this overall plan was followed successively by that of five-year plans for developing power resources, promoting foreign trade and inducting foreign capital. In December last, the South Korean military junta announced its draft budget for fiscal 1962.

Of all these economic development plans, the overall Five-Year Plan is worthy of special attention.

This economic plan was drafted last July by the military regime and revised afterward.

However, there is practically no basic difference between the orginal draft and the revised one. It is said that this revised plan was due to be submitted to the U.S. Economic Advisory Committee in South Korea for examination and approval.

The military junta expects that the average yearly rate of economic growth will reach 7.2 per cent (5.7 per cent in the first year of the plan and 8.4 per cent in the last) and that the gross national product will reach 2,320,700 million hwan in the starting year of the plan and, will be increased in the last year by about 40.8 per cent–46.3 per cent in the original draft–over that in the first year of the plan.

To secure successful execution of the plan, the military regime expects assistance and loans from foreign countries.

It estimates that such assistance and loans will total some 1,450 million dollars, loans amounting to some 450 million dollars of the total.

As regards foreign trade, the regime hopes exports to grow during the plan period to reach a total amount of 164,300,000 hwan and imports to be held down below 463,700,000 hwan.

The military regime stresses the importance of introducing increased foreign capital has a vital bearing on whether or not the plan can be realized successfully. The military ruling groups said that, in order to ensure domestic resources, it is necessary to raise the tax burden rate from the present 12.7 per cent to 17.5 per cent.

They are trying hard to convince the public that the successful execution of the plan will stimulate the present South Korea's dull economy and result in improving remarkably the people's living conditions.

Hankuk Ilbo, an influential South Korean daily, pointed out the fraudulent nature of the plan, when it said:

"There is little possibility of the plan being successfully realized, as it is dictated by such a strong desire to catch up with North Korea's economic development that it fails to appraise realistically our country's economic conditions in five years to come." The paper urged that the plan be revised completely.

Even the White House authorities chided Pak Chung Hi for the unpracticability of the plan while he was in Washington at the invitation of President J. F. Kennedy.

The Japanese financial circles, too, demand that the South Korean regime revise the plan.

The daily referred to the past economic growth rate of the country to illustrate the unfeasibility of the plan, saying that the plan was so lacking in substance that it seemed to be a product of an idle play with figures.

Yearly decline in the economic growth rate in recent years, say, from 7.5 per cent in 1959, to 5.2 and to 2.3 in 1960 shows that the figures envisaged in the plan are based upon nothing but empty dreams.

This is particularly so when we consider the fact that the economic growth rate reached only 2.3 per cent in 1960, when the rate of natural increase in population stood at 2.88 per cent.

Moreover, the military regime admitted that, in 1961, the economic growth rate declined to minus 0.1 per cent (Radio Seoul).

As for funds which the South Korean regime expects from foreign countries the U.S. had already made clear its policy of stopping free aid to foreign countries, and hinted on various occasions that it may cut down "aid" to South Korea, in order to prevent a further outflow of dollars.

It is surprising that in spite of this situation, the South Korean military regime is hoping to introduce into South Korea U.S. capital totaling some 200 million dollars, which represents a sharp increase over 8,600,000 dollars in 1960 (Hankuk Ilbo).

Toward this end, the military junta has sent missions to Britain, West Germany and Italy, but these efforts have borne no fruit so far.

Britain flatly rejected the mission's request, while the other two countries are not so much interested. Consequently, Japan is the last country that the military rulers can turn to for help.

The U.S. imperialists, who regard the military regime as their sheet-anchor in maintaining any longer their colonial rule in South Korea, are trying desperately to have the Japanese militarist remnants help them in bolstering the shaky regime.

The Japanese militarist remnants in return, eagerly watching for a chance of invading again South Korea economically, are out to utilize the opportunity offered.

It is because of this that the Five-Year Plan is denounced as "traitorous" in nature.

After the May 16 coup d'etat of 1961, which, it is unquestionably clear today, was engineered by U.S. imperialism, the economic crisis of the country is becoming sharper day by day.

The U.S. "aid" program for South Korea during the past 16 years has contributed little toward restoring the destroyed national industries of the country, resulting in aggravating the people's livelihood and plunging the population into the bottom of misery.

This shows that it is impossible to restore the economy of South Korea (which has no independent national industry worthy of the name) by introducing foreign capital.

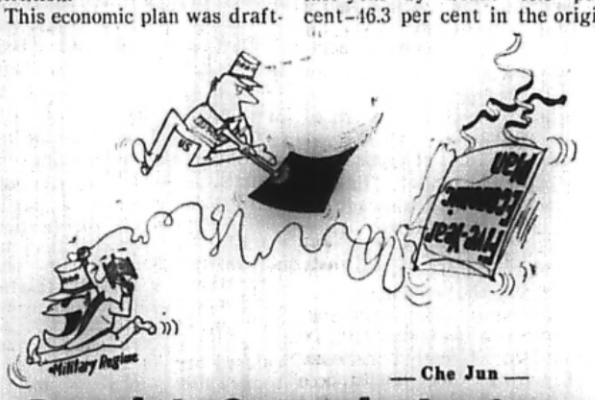
The South Korean people know this well. It is not fortuitous that they have risen in the struggle against U.S. imperialism for national salvation.

They decalre that to depend upon foreign forces is to surender their country to foreigners and that a unified, independent Korea can be created only by establishing corporative relations between heavy industries in the North and agriculture in the South, and indignantly demand that the U.S. imperialists immediately pull out of South Korea.

Alarmed by the daily growing popular struggle against them, the U.S. imperialists realized that there was no alternative for them but to engineer a military coup, in order to suppress the struggle.

Contrary to their expectations, however, the people's anti-American sentiment and struggle are mounting as never before with every passing day and the military fascists they have put in power are too weak to live up to their masters' expectations.

No one can stifle to death the people's aspiration for peaceful unification of their fatherland.



— Che Jun —

People's Struggle Against Junta Spreads

Reports from South Korea say that the South Korean people's struggles for existence and democratic rights are mounting higher and higher with every passing day, during recent months.

According to a Pusan Ilbo report, in November last, some 600 casual labourers engaged in construction work near the city staged an unscheduled demostration against their employer, demanding that he should immediately retract dismissal notices served to their fellow labourers.

The discharged labourers, numbering about 30, later rushed to the City Hall, demanding an explanation, as they knew that the city authorities were behind their dismissal.

According to a Maiil Shinmoon report from Taegu, employees of the "ROK" Rice Warehouse Co. in Taegu demanded again that the company management immediately pay the persons dismissed last July their retirement allowances and mutual relief funds, amounting to some 2,900,000 hwan.

Recently, Taejun Ilbo said that some 30 families peasants in Asan County, South Chungchong Province, had accused the military regime for conniving at the wrongdoing of a landlord called Kim who had unlawfully deprived them of their farming land amounting to a total area of some 200,000 square metres which they had been cultivating.

According to the report, these peasants were forcibly removed ten years ago to this county, as a result of the enforcement of the so-called "Goverment Reclamation Projects for Relieving the Poor" started by the toppled Syngman Rhee regime.

A Taejun Radio Broadcast said in the middle of last December, that peasants in the province refused to sell to the military authorities their rice crop harvested in last autumn, saying that the purchasing price of rice was too low.

Thus, the rice the peasants refused to sell, amounted to some 75 per cent of the total amount which the authorities expected to purchase from them, the radio added.

In South Kyungsang Province, too, the military authorities failed in buying up the amount of rice they had expected. As a result, the junta managed to buy from the peasants only 25.8 per cent of the orginal target amount.

According to a radio report from Mokpo, peasants in South Cholla Province were postponing the payment of "land tax" as of Dec. 15 last, or will only 15 days left to go before the deadline for the payment.

As a result, as of that date, some 90 per cent of the land tax was still to be paid in many counties of the province.

Maiil Shinmoon reported from Taegu that fishermen in the Pohang district, North Kyungsang Province, demanded a sharp reduction in the "fishery tax" and an immediate measure to restore the damaged facilities of the fishery port.

According to a Pusan Ilbo report, citizens in Masan were rising in a "Save Masan University Campaign" protesting against the plan of the military authorities to reorganize Masan University in accordance with the "Law for Adjusting Universities."

People in the neighbouring areas of the city joined this campaign, the report said.

I.O.J. Awards Int'l Journalistic Prize to S. Korean Journalist Cho Yong Su (Posthumously)

The late Mr. Cho Yong Su

HAVANA, Jan. 16, (TASS)– A session of the Executive Committee of the International Organization (I.O.J.) of Journalists was held in Havana between Jan. 13 and 15. At its last session, the Executive Committee of the I.O.J. unanimously resolved to award an international journalistic prize to Cho Yong Su(posthumously), ex-president of the South Korean newspaper, "Minjok Ilbo."

The session of the Executive Committee expressed its condolences to Cho Yong Su who was hanged to death by the U.S. imperialists and the Pak Chung Hi clique, on the charge that he had advocated through his paper peaceful unification of the country and South-North interchange.

IUS Denounces "S. Korea-Japan Talks"

The Secretariat of the International Union of Students on Jan. 13 issued a statement attacking the resumed "South Korean-Japan Talks," according to a foreign dispatch from Bulgaria.

In the statement, the secretariat denounced the U.S. imperialists for plotting to spawn up a new "NEATO" military alliance with Japan and South Korea as partners in order to maintain their shaky colonial rule in South Korea.

The "South Korea-Japan Talks," the statement continued, are aimed at obstructting the peaceful unification of Korea, the most earnest desire of the Korean people, and at perpetuating the division of the country. The secretariat expressed its firm solidarity with the South Korean people and students fighting courageously to unify peacefully their fatherland.

The statement also called upon the world's students and organizations concerned to express support and solidarity with the fighting Korean people and students.

U.S. To Exchange Surplus Farm Produce With S. Korean Tungsten

The U.S. Embassy in Seoul is now negotiating with the South Korean authorities on a barter deal of U.S. surplus farm goods with South Korean tungsten, according to a Hapdong Tongshin report from South Korea.

Under the "ROK'-U.S. Tungsten Agreement," the U.S. imperialists are purchasing tungsten from South Korea at a price 40 per cent lower than the world levels.

History of 'Hunmin Chongum,' Korean Language

— In Connection With 518th Anniversary of Its Birth —

It was on Jan. 15, 1444, that the Korean people, for the first time in their long history, came into possession 'Hunmin Chongum' (literally, People Instructing Regular Sounds), the common medium of communication accessible to every individual.

In commemoration of the 518th anniversary of its birth, let's see briefly the history of the development of the 'Hunmin Chongum.'

General Background

Glimpses of the ancient Korean language may be gathered from scanty recorded literature of old Korea. Although transcribed in Chinese characters, we are able to derive some clues about the language spoken by the Korean people's ancestors, especially from the "Songs of Silla Dynasty." These records, moreover, give us bare hints that some kind of writing was known in ancient Korea before the introduction of Chinese ideography.

The Chinese system of writing was first used after the fourth century of the Christian era. The difficulty of mastering this system of ideographic writing heightened the division between the common classes which could not begin to undertake the time-consuming efforts reguired and the ruling class which had all the leisure to pursue them. By the Li dynasty, the educational and cultural traditions were steeped in Chinese and the administrative system of the state and social life depended upon it.

Two systems of writing were derived from the Chinese ideopraphy, the *idu* and the *ibgvod*. The former system is believed to have been developed in the first 40 years since the introduction of Buddhism to Silla in 528. The latter took longer to develop; it was started in the seventh century and completed only in latter-day Koryo of the fourteenth century. Both systems continued to be used until the end of the Li dynasty. Generally speaking, the *idu* and *ibgvod* were efforts to weld the fundamentally different Korean grammar to the structure of the Chinese language and to serve as Korean grammatical particles.

Korean alphabet promulgated 518 years ago by King Sejong as the "Hunmin Chongum."

In the middle of the fifteenth century, there was a stroke of inspiration. A complete departure was made from the Chinese system of writing and an alphabet, suited to the native language itself, devised. This was Hunmin Chongum, or Hangul, promulgated in the year of 1444 after three years of hard labour by the foremost scholars of the age. In promulgating it, the enlightened king, Sejong, declared that it was his wish to extend the blessings of the written word to the common people by offering them a convenient system of writing easily mastered by any individual.

But this liberating instrument of the Hunmin Chongum could not budge the entrenched position of Chinese. The scholarly class, ever mindful of their authority and prestige derived from the Chinese Classics, resisted it. Hunmin Chongum experiments failed after a sporadic start and became despised as a medium for womenfolk.

What is worse, Japanese imperialism's efforts to kill the Korean language led to bans and suppressions, of books, magazines and newspapers, to the outlawry of the language in school, to its discouragement at home, to the jailing of Korean language authorities, and to compulsory Japanese everywhere.

The Liberation revived Hunmin Chongum learning with a vengeance. Overnight, there were movements to replace the Japanese vocabulary, to coin new Korean words, for the Chinese vocabulary, to take the next logical step with the Hunmin Chongum and liberate it in a horizontal system of writing.

Origin

To which family of languages does the Korean language belong?

This question has been debated for a long time. Korean and Japanese are two of the main world languages that have never had their origins clearly defined outside themselves. Even Korean and Japanese, believed by most international scholars to be akin, have never had their kinship established as a certainty. At this stage of linguistic scholarship, it is only possible to base the origin of Korean on probabilities from the migrations of the Korean race and shrewd guesses from the structure of the language. The keys to this answer are to be found somewhere in the vast steppes of Central Asia. These are steppes which have bred numerous races of nomadic migrators east and west.

History of Hunmin Chongum

The Hunmin Chongum was the product of Korea's "Golden Age of Culture" ushered in with the reign of the fourth Li king, Sejong, in the fifteenth century. Sejong was the first ruler to realize that the true purpose of writing was to make it accessible to the common people. To that end, he decided to devise an alphabetic system of writing to replace the Chinese ideography and brought several outstanding scholars, together to work it out.

However, the demands for perfection made the task an extremely difficult one and it required many years of hard work to determine the phonetic values of Korean to fit perfection.

The alphabet was finally completed and proclaimed by the king as the "Hunmin Chongum." The book consisted of three parts, preamble, values of sounds, and rules of application. The preamble reads: "Due to the fact that the language of this land is different from China's, there is no basis for communication of the written word among the popular masses; they are very often unable in the long run to express all that they wish. Greatly concerned as I am by this handicap, I have devised 28 letters for the convenience of every individual who should be able easily to master them." The values of sounds were given by examples as in elementary school educations: *C* as in Cat, *D* as in Dog, and so forth. The rules of application explained the combination of the letters into syllabic forms. By popular abbreviation, the "Hunmin Chongum" came to be called "hangul" which means, simply, Korean writing.

From the preamble, we note there were originally 28 letters. Four were eventually dropped because they reprsented Chinese rather than Korean values of sounds and it was decided that they might as well be absorbed into other letters. Thus ㆆ which is a guttural *h* as in the Chinese word for 'good' *hao*, was discarded and words with that consonant, including, *ho* (Korean version of the Chinese 'good'), were represented, instead, by ㅎ (*h*-normal). The same thing happened to ㅸ, ㅇ and ㅿ, represented respectively in the Wade Romanization of Chinese as *e* as in Mao Tze-tung, *j* as in *jih pao* (newspaper) and *hs* as in *hsieh hsiao* (school). The short vowel, ㆍ, appearing in such words as 며ᄂᆞ리 (daughter-in-law) is now rendered as 며누리. The consonant ㅇ has disappeared, mostly into the silent ㅇ or vowels. ㅿ is interesing. In the capital, it has disappeared completely as a vowel while in the provinces, the *s* suggestion has been retained. Thus, the old Korean word for village, 마ᅀᆞᆯ (ma-Hsul) is now 마을 (maul) in Seoul but (masul) in rural areas. Similarly, words for mirror, scissors, etc.

That perfection had not been achieved in devising the Hunmin Chongum is born out by the fact that the test of time and usage led to the discarding of these Chinese values of sounds. Other imperfections were also noted in time, particularly the illogical spelifications entailed by a system that had not taken into adequate consideration the phonetic trasformation of certain Korean words followed by postpositions. All in all, however, it must be considered one of the truly most remarkable alphabets in the world. It is systematic, economical and comprehensive.

Hunmin Chongum, devised 518 years ago, enabled the popular masses to grip as their own the national culture, which had been until then a favorite of a handful of the ruling groups. After that, it contributed greatly to the following cultural development in Korea.

In our socialist fatherland, the Hunmin Chongum, people's language in the true sense of the words, is giving full play to its capacity as a reliable guarantee for the development of the national culture.

Anti-Japanese Partisan Fighters Tell Their Past Stories

In A Dense Forest of the Donhwa District (3)

by Kim Myung Hwa

(Continued)

Because it was early spring, I took out with great pains from under the deep snow withered leaves of wild vines, which I knew were good for eating. And, as to the soft and fresh leaves of trees, it was very rare that I was lucky enough to find them.

Usually, it was after such hard work that I happpened to have the luck to get some pine-corns. I put these corns into the fire so that I could take out the seeds easily from the shells. The seeds were yellowish and greasy when they were extracted from the corns and roasted over the fire. Then, I ground the seeds into flour and mixed it with the maize flour at a ratio of two spoonfuls to one for the pine-seed and maize flour, putting the mixture into a bowelful of water, whenever I found it necessary to adjust the amount of food for the wounded soldier.

As for me, I drank only hot water, containing a very little maize flour and some boiled grass leaves.

Every morning, I left our hut in search of something to eat, and it was usually around the time when the sun was setting in the west that I returned to our hut.

Night fell on the forest sooner than elsewhere and, usually, the air was thick with dusk at around four or five in the afternoon.

Always I returned to our hut with a bundle of dried and hard oak and larch sticks on back.

As day after day passed, our hardships increased. There were less fallen pine-corns than before. So, I had to climb pine-trees and strike them down off from high branches with a rod. It was, however, a matter of life and death for me to do so, because by that time I had been so weak from hunger.

Moreover, in most cases, these corns were found in large quantities in rugged areas, which one could hardly enter without exposing himself to danger, and it was difficult for me to find even fallen leaves in easily accessible places.

So, sometimes I wandered about remote mountains all night, after darkness had overtaken me on the way before I was aware of it.

After such a night, Bilokade's voice was hoarce: for he had called me all night, "Mother Myung Hwa," with the door of the hut left open.

The tenth day after the regiment's departure–how hopefully we had waited for the day to come–came at last and went by. What we had been waiting did not occur. Another ten days passed. And so, for 30 days we waited and waited.

One day, dragging my weary feet uncertainly, I left the hut after giving the wounded soldier a bowel of corn flour soup.

Leaving the hut with my knapsack on my shoulders, I heard Bilokade calling after me, imploringly but somewhat sternly, "Don't go too far, please! I am all right if I don't eat anything. So, don't leave me behind alone, please. I am all right if only you are beside me."

Looking back over my shoulder, I told him comfortingly, "Surely, I will not be going so far...Until I come back, you will dream a good dream, I hope...".

I shuffled slowly step by step along a mountainside. My feet failed me. My feet, which I wrapped in rags, came out from my worn-out shoes, and the shoes I was then putting on was Bilokade's, my shoes being by that time unable to stand use.

Soon, I was beginning to crawl up the mountainside on my stomach. I could manage some way or other to climb half up the mountain. That was all I could do. I found myself resting, still on my face, at the bottom of a cliff on the mountainside. Looking around, I found two pine-trees about 10 metres ahead.

I pulled myself together and finally succeeded in getting there.

(To be Continued)

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